Locality-Sensitive Hashing and Beyond

Ilya Razenshteyn (MIT)

based on papers joint with Alexandr Andoni (Columbia), Piotr Indyk (MIT), Thijs Laarhoven (TU Eindhoven) and Ludwig Schmidt (MIT)

Outline

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- Near Neighbor Search
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- Most of the applications are in high dimensions



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- Optimization: Coordinate Descent [Dhillon, Ravikumar, Tewari 2011], Stochastic Gradient Descent [Hofmann, Lucchi, McWilliams 2015] etc

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• In practice:

- Cosine similarity is widely used
- Oftentimes, can boldly pretend that the dataset lies on a sphere and *be just fine*

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- **Dataset: n** random points on a sphere
- **Query:** a random query within **45** degrees from a data point
- Distribution of angles: near neighbor within 45 degrees, other data points at ~90 degrees!
- Instructive case to think about
 - Concentration of angles around **90** degrees happens in practice



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- Overall: O(n^{1.42}) space, O(n^{0.42}) query time, K·L hyperplanes



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Recap:

- **p**₁ is collision probability for close pairs
- **p**₂ for far pairs

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- Works for the general case of ANN on a sphere!

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- Hash p into h(p) = argmax_{1≤i≤T} < p, g_i >
- **T** = **2** is simply Hyperplane LSH















- Let us compare K hyperplanes vs. Voronoi LSH with T = 2^K (in both cases K-bit hashes)
- As T grows, the gap between Hyperplane LSH and Voronoi LSH increases and

ρ = ln(1/p₁) / ln(1/p₂) approaches **0.18**



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- Too strong! Can assume that p is a data point!
 - Exploit the geometry of **P** to design better partitions
 - Able to obtain improvement for every P

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Optimal* data-dependent space partitions for the Euclidean and Manhattan/Hamming distances

* After proper formalization

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- Worst-case dataset \rightarrow randomly-looking parts (data-dependent)

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- What if the dataset does not look random?
 - Voronoi LSH is suboptimal





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- Query **all** the clusters and **one** part

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 - A tree occupies space n^{1+o(1)}, query time is n^{o(1)} (can control depth and branching)
 - Need **n**^p trees to succeed w.h.p.



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This work: yes!

- Cross-polytope LSH introduced by [Terasawa, Tanaka 2007]:
 - To hash **p**, apply a *random rotation* **S** to **p**
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- **This paper:** almost the same quality as Voronoi LSH with **T = 2d**
 - Blessing of dimensionality: exponent improves as d grows!



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- The second step is cheap (only **O(d)** time)



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- Equivalent to Voronoi LSH with **T = 2d** Gaussians

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- Our contribution: Multiprobe for Cross-polytope LSH

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Questions?